

NUTMEG WOMEN'S SOCCER LEAGUE

Annual Meeting Minutes (unapproved)
January 28, 2012
New Haven Free Public Library

In attendance as team representatives:

Easton & Vice-President	Sandra Hampson
Excels & Registrar	Dorothy Cohen
Guilford	Christine Fulton
Hamden	missing in action
H-K	Robyne Brennan
Meriden	BJ Romano
Orange	Jill Lacy
Southington	Kristin Prasauckas
Valley	Sue Schiavi
Yalesville	Robyn Manzelli
O40 & President	Sally Tremaine
Secretary	Lori Cooke-Marra
Treasurer	Jennifer Lynch
Guilford team member	Alexis Highsmith
Meriden team member	Jessica Mosier

The meeting was called to order at 3:12 p.m. by Sally Tremaine, President. She thanked everyone for coming

The minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting were accepted as posted by consensus.

This is Sally's last meeting as President. She stated that she was happy with the League's start-up and that it held together, but disappointed that it has not grown and hoped for more teams as the word got out about the league. We are trying to keep the league recreational but have fun and be competitive. She thanked the officers for their service.

Sandra, VP, thanked Sally for forming the Women's League. She asked that captains notify her regarding field changes and e-mail regarding any cards or injuries. As soon as she gets the field availabilites from the captains she will do the spring schedule.

Jennifer, Treasurer, noted that the 2011/12 fees paid as of 12/31/11, were \$2857.70. Expenses for Spring 2012, will be \$700 for referee assignor, website \$450, tax preparation \$425, and the CT Tax of \$250. Additional \$50/team bond will bring the total bond per team up to \$150 for referees to be paid for a forfeit if the team does not pay outright. 48 hours' notice is needed to avoid forfeiture. None of the bond money will be refunded to the teams. Now that we have a handle on income and expenses our costs should be stable. BJ asked if new players can register now. Yes, the fee is the same for Spring as if they registered for the whole year.

Dorothy, Registrar, noted that registering one time/year is quite nice. She asked that captains let her know about new players and that she needs a confirmation from the captain before reassignment to a new team.

There was no unfinished business or amendments to the Rules of By-laws.

Election of officers was held:

President	Jennifer Lynch
Secretary	Lori Cooke-Marra
Treasurer	Jennifer Lynch

Christine moved to vote on slate as a whole. Jill seconded. Approved unanimously. Lori moved to have the Secretary cast one ballot and Jen seconded. Unanimous approval.

New Business

1. Forfeits/No shows: Suggest that with insufficient players to just show up and play with 7 and share players; some teams don't like to do this, but the point is to play. Perhaps teams could share for just ½ the game.

Definition of a last minute forfeit: less than 48 hours to game time, however this is not really enforced. The game should be rescheduled and played, not forfeited, if agreed by both teams.

Sue noted that if there are less than 7 players then what does one do? Kristin stated that the team has 15 minutes to get the 7th. Mixing players is not a bond forfeit. If the game is not a legal game, then the refs don't have to stay but still get paid. If players are mixed, refs don't have to stay. If the refs show up at the field they are to be paid. If there are injuries a report must be filed by both the refs and the captains. The ref assignor and the league need to know about both 'good' and 'bad' referees. Christine noted that some refs seem to call games for the same team frequently. Jill asked regarding game start times: Sandra stated that there should be a 15 minute grace period to start and still finish the game with 45 minute halves.

2. One-Up Rule: not mandated in our league. Jill said no. Christine thought that the captains should decide at the game. Sally said it depends on circumstances. Sandra stated that it penalizes a team that shows with a large number of players and Sue said teams should use good sportsmanship. Dorothy said it's a courtesy but teams should play and that the captains get it, but the players don't.
3. Sally advised that there seemed to be a growing tendency of the younger O30s to swear and be more aggressive; it is the Captain's responsibility to tone it down if there is no coach present. Sue said that she hasn't noticed this. Sandra stated that refs should hand out yellow cards for poor behavior, but Christine noted that coaches are sometimes the problem. Jill said that coaches shouldn't be screaming from the sidelines.

Referees need to take control of the game and ask coaches to refrain from yelling and swearing. Alexis noted that quite often there are no team practices so that coaching occurs during a game and Sally said that the games are supposed to be FUN.

4. Numbers on jerseys: Our By-laws state that every player needs a numbered jersey and 2 of them. Each number should be unique. Refs don't enforce this. Jill said it was quite frustrating when teams have many players without numbers. It is the captains' responsibility to bring duct tape or some other form of numbering identification.
5. An age limit for O30 of 50 years maximum was brought up by the Yalesville team. Christine thought this was ridiculous. Sue thought this might be a motivation for some players to join O40 and thus help the O40 division grow. The consensus was a resounding NO regarding any maximum age limit in any division.

6. Referee system: Christine requested discussion regarding the 3-man system. She didn't think it added to the game as there was no realized benefit and it didn't seem cost effective. Alexis was originally excited about the 3-man system and has had some excellent referee; offsides is sometimes missed with a one-man system. Jill noted that the quality of the refs has improved and the 3-man system has cut down on the wrong call/offsides 'crap' and that fouls are caught more frequently. Robyne never thought we needed the 3-man system. Dorothy said that 1 referee often lets the game get out-of-control at times.

Christine moved that we use only 1 center referee, unless both teams agree on 3, with the caveat that a team could not have one specific ref. BJ seconded. More discussion ensued. Dorothy wanted to know the process for 3 refs. Alexis thought it could be discussed with the 2 captains involved and Sandra. Jill thought it might be difficult to coordinate and wondered how the money would be collected for this and when? Sue stated that if the home team wants 3 refs then they should pay. If the visiting team feels that the game should have 3 refs then they would need to make a request. The motion was defeated with Christine and BJ voting in favor and the balance of the voting representatives voting against.

Jill noted that Grace is putting together an O40 team for the Veteran's Cup in San Diego in June.

Sandra said that the Spring season will start on 4/15/2012, and end on 6/17/2012. There will be no games on Memorial Day. Jen advised us that Ahmed Boura is running a soccer camp for women in Italy in September, 9/8-16/2012. Sally let us know that KFAC is 7/28-29/2012 and Jill requested that teams register early.

Dorothy wondered if we could do more with Kristine Lilly as she like to work with women.

Christine said that Sally did a great job as our President and there was a round of applause.

Sandra stated that it was good move for us to split from CARSL.

Christine moved to adjourn the meeting; Sandra seconded. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 425P.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Cooke-Marra

Lori Cooke-Marra
Secretary